GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:795
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2007
REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGE
Krishnadas Shri N.N.;Rawat Shri Bachi Singh;Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to make registration of marriage compulsory for all communities in the wake of Supreme Court`s recent verdict;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating to introduce a Bill in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY)

(a) & (b) The Supreme Court in its judgment dated 23.7.2007 in the matter CWP No.291/2005 in Smt Seema Vs. Ashwani Kumar, has reiterated its earlier judgment dated 14.2.2006 that marriages of all persons who are citizens of India belonging to various religions should be made compulsorily registrable in their respective States, where the marriage is solemnized. The matter is under consideration of the Government.

(c), (d) & (e) On the recommendations of National Human Rights Commission and National Commission for Women and as per the aforesaid judgment of the Supreme Court, the proposal to enact a suitable legislation relating to Compulsory Registration of Marriages is under consideration with the Government. In view of the importance and complexity of the matter, it may take some more time before a Bill could be brought before the Cabinet.